

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph beginning on page 17, line 26, with the following:

In the present embodiment, the screw member 67 is arranged so as to extend from the lower portion 67A 67a toward the uppermost surface 16B to transport the waste toner T from the lower portion of the container 16 toward the higher portion thereof when a driving force is transmitted to the screw member 67.

Please replace paragraph beginning on page 21, line 16, with the following:

Even in this embodiment using the belt member 70, the waste toner piled on a portion of the container having a short height is fed by the belt member 70 toward a portion having a long height, resulting in corruption of the waste toner piled on the portion having a short height. Therefore, even when the container 16 has a special form, occurrence of problems such that the waste toner leaks from the opening 65 or the feeding pipe 61-K 61K is clogged with the waste toner and the piled waste toner is firmly fixed in the container can be prevented. Thus it is possible to make good use of the internal space of the container 16, and thereby the replace cycle of the container 16 can be extended, resulting in reduction of maintenance time and costs.

Please replace paragraph beginning on page 23, line 8, with the following:

The waste toner T is typically piled like mountains on the portions of the container 16 below the openings. By rotating the screw member 267, the screws 267a – 267d rotate and thereby the piled waste toner T is corrupted and the waste toner contained in a portion having a short height is transferred toward a portion having a long height. Therefore, even when the container 16 has a special form, occurrence of problems such that the waste toner leaks from

the opening 65 or the feeding pipe ~~61-K~~ 61K is clogged with the waste toner and the piled waste toner is firmly fixed in the container can be prevented. Thus, it is possible to make good use of the internal space of the container, and thereby the replace cycle of the container 16 can be extended, resulting in reduction of maintenance time and costs.

Please replace paragraph beginning on page 24, line 11, with the following:

In the container 16 illustrated in Fig. 11, a portion of a screw member 367 near the opening 65 has a transporting capacity greater than that of a portion of the screw member 367 near the opening 62. The transporting capacity can be changed by the changing diameter or pitch of the screw. By providing such a screw member 367, having a lower end portion 367a, the waste toner piled on a portion having a short height (or a portion on which waste toner tends to be quickly piled) can be transported in a larger amount than that for other portions. Therefore, even when the container 16 has a special form, occurrence of problems such that the waste toner leaks from the opening 65 or the feeding pipe ~~61-K~~ 61K is clogged with the waste toner and the piled toner and the piled waste toner is firmly fixed in the container can be prevented. Thus it is possible to make good use of the internal space of the container, and thereby the replace cycle of the container 16 can be extended, resulting in reduction of maintenance time and costs.

Please replace paragraph beginning on page 25, line 10, with the following:

By using such a container 160, a large amount of waste toner can be contained therein. Therefore, even when the container 160 has a special form, occurrence of problems such that the waste toner leaks from the opening 65 or the feeding pipe ~~61-K~~ 61K is clogged with the waste toner and the piled waste toner is firmly fixed in the container can be prevented. Thus, it is possible to make good use of the internal space of the container 160,

Application No. 10/660,636
Reply to Office Action of October 8, 2004

and thereby the replace cycle of the container 160 can be extended, resulting in reduction of maintenance time and costs.